eCourtMN
Minnesota Judicial Branch

skills, tools, and knowledge on our way to a paperless court

How can I find information on a case in New MGA?

You can search for case information through either the Smart Search or Search Hearings sections on your home page.
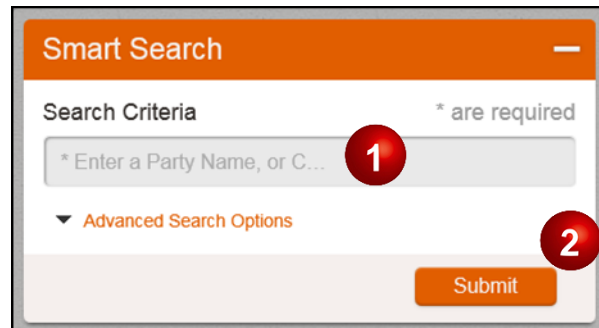
How do I use Smart Search?

To search using only a party name or case number:

1. Enter the party name in the Last, First Middle Suffix format (e.g., Smith, John Paul) or enter the MNCIS case number. The system ignores hyphens, so you don't need to enter them.
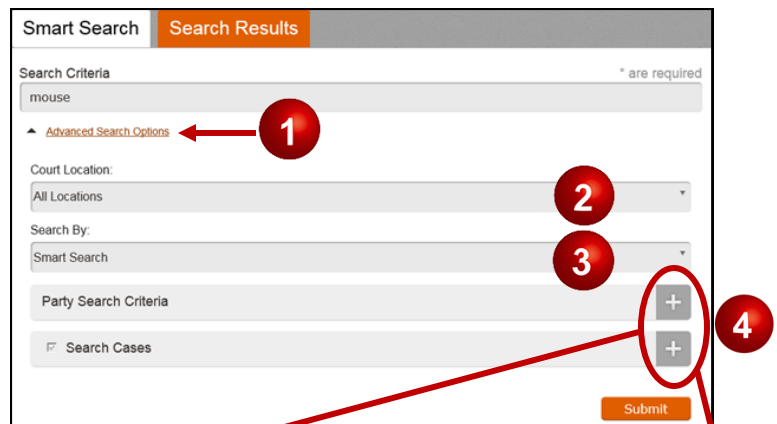
2. Click **Submit**.

(i) To search using the wildcard feature, enter an **asterisk** after the first four characters of the name or case number you are searching for. A nickname or business name only requires three characters before the asterisk.
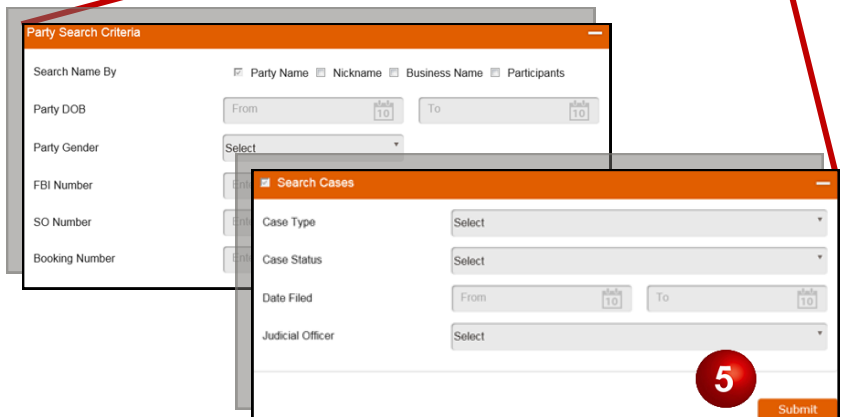
To search using Advanced Search Options:

1. Click on **Advanced Search Options** under the Search Criteria field.

2. Select the **Court Location**.

3. Select your desired search criteria in the **Search By** field. If you choose something other than Smart Search, the Search Criteria field at the top of the section will be renamed.

4. Expand the **Party Search** or **Search Cases** fields by clicking on [+] to add more detailed information to your search.

5. Click **Submit**.

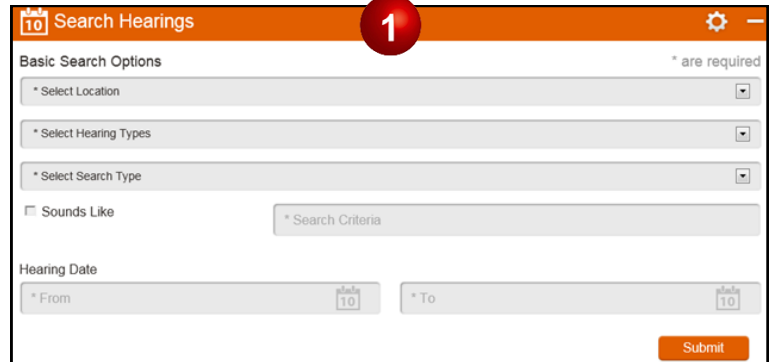6. Delete your previous advanced search parameters before proceeding with a new search.

(!) **Keep in mind that the information in New MGA comes from the Minnesota Court Information System. If you try to search based on criteria that weren't entered on the case, you may not find what you're looking for. For example, DOB is not entered on every case (especially civil).**

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How can I find information on a case using the Search Hearings section?

1. Complete **all fields** under Basic Search Options (everything except "Sounds Like" is required).

2. Complete additional fields that appear after selecting Search Type if applicable.

3. Click **Submit**.

*If you're searching by party name and aren't sure how to spell it (e.g., John vs. Jon), check the **Sounds Like** box and enter one of them. Your search will return results for various spellings of the name.*
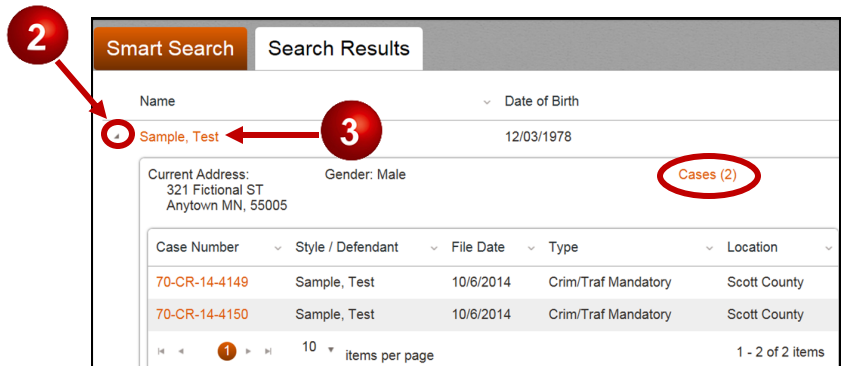
How are the search results displayed?

If you searched by party name:

1. The results will display sorted by party Name.

2. Click on the **carrot** to the left of the Name to view the address and number of cases.

3. Click on the **Name** to view case information, including the Register of Actions under "Other Events and Hearings Information."

If you searched by case number or Advanced Search Options:

1. The results will display sorted by Case Number.

2. Click on the **Case Number** to view case information, including the Register of Actions, under "Other Events and Hearings Information."

3. If you can't see the full text for a line, **hover your mouse** over the one you wish to see and the full text will appear.

Too many results? See QRG: Filtering Search Results in New MGA for more information.

The results will either display grouped by party name or case number, depending on the search criteria you used.